(Rs. in lakhs)

SI.No. State	NOAPS		NFBS		NMBS	
	99-	2000-	99-2000	2000-		99-
1. Arunachal Pradesh	7.07	7.65	1.90	2.32	1.56	0.00
2. Assam	745.87	1180.96	464.33	488.07	113.34	95.71
3. Manipur	87.71	147.46	23.40	29.21	25.52	22.02
4. Meghalaya	94.79	158.59	21.23	32.50	14.37	12.20
5. Mizoram	29.2	42.36	5.73	9.33	14.8	6.39
6. Nagaland	41.02	57.57	6.30	7.84	12.03	8.33
7. Tripura	178.18	282.73	55.84	51.35	14.57	42.21
8. Sikkim	14.9	47.30	2.86	0.00	2.99	0.00
TOTAL	1198.74	1924.62	581.59	620.62	199.18	186.86

Mining Operations by KIOCL

*393. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the

Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) a consistently profit making Government enterprise, is in deep trouble because of its mining operations in the Western Ghats of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether any issue regarding permission for mining operations is pending before NEERI of Nagpur for environmental clearance and the Karnataka Government for final approval; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to ensure that the company continues its operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF THE STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) M/s. NEERI of Nagpur has been entrusted with the work of conducting a study on the environmental impact of mining in Kudremukh Region. M/s. NEERI has submitted a rapid report to the Govt, of Karnataka and their comprehensive report is awaited.

(d) The period of working permission granted to Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. has been extended by a period of one year w.e.f. 25.7.2000 so as to enable the company to continue its operations. One of the conditions for the working permission is that the environmental impact assessment study be got completed within a period of six months.

Decline in prices of indigenous cereals and oil seeds due to lifting of QRS on imports

† *394. SHRI DP. YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of indigenous cereals and oilseeds in various States of the country are decreasing sharply due to lifting of Quantitative Restrictions on the import of 714 articles under the pressure of World Trade Organizations (WTO);

(b) whether Government have pushed the farmers and cottage industry on the verge of destruction by giving permission of free import of these items and now Uttar Pradesh has been affected after the Punjab; and

(c) if so, under what pressure Government have taken these steps?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Import of all major cereals as classified under Chapter 10 of ITC (HS) classification of Export and Import Items, 1997—2002 is restricted and canalized through Food Corporation of India. Import of all edible oils excepting coconut oil as classified under chapter 15 of ITC (HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items, 1997-2002, is presently free. Import of all refined edible oil excluding coconut oil, Palm kernel oil, RBD palm oil and RBD palm stearin was made free prior to 01.04.96. As can be seen from the import data of edible oil furnished below, India has always been a net importer of edible oils.

Year	Vegetable oil (Edible)	
	Qty. (in tons)	Value (in Rs. Crore)
1995-96	1061988	2261.9
1996-97	1415794	2929.1
1997-98	1265753	2764.6
1998-99	2378566	7131.4
1999-2000 (April-January)	3671232	7099.7

(Figures are provisional) [Source: DGCI & S, Calcutta]

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.